From: SAMUEL MEDRANO

Microsoft ATR,lew@mises.org@inetgw 1/5/02 2:12am To:

Date:

Persuant to the Tunney Act the following is my opinion as a concerned member of the public in reference to United States vs. Microsoft and its proposed settlement.

This lawsuit should never have seen the light of day nor given the attention it had received. It's just consideration should have been as a public example of nuisance lawsuits brought about by inefficient and unworthy, but powerful economic interests as well as sanctimonious politicians seeking greater political power.

Serious study of economics would have revealed that true monopolies exist only where the intruments of political power are used to insulate and protect an area of industry from the brutal and fickle forces of a free market whose only sovereign is the consuming public. A clear example of a true and lasting is the first class delivery monopoly granted to the US Postal Service. (Mises and Rothbard)

Microsoft holds a majority of the market share of operating systems not by state edict but by that brutal and fickle sovereign's choice know as the public. Politicians love speaking out against business "monoplies" but never bring to the discussion the state's monopolies or their personal monopoly in their respective office. They see it as a sign of praise and "a mandate" whenever they manage to gather more than a majority in election polls or public opinion polls.

By including the Internet Explorer with new PCs Microsoft was employing a legitimate business decision calculation by offering more and more for its consumers. Microsoft is as eager to capture a majority marketshare for internet browers as its competitors. That is the nature of the free market and the American way. May the fair winner in this never ending struggle be praised. We the sovereign will determine how long we will let this or that supplier will be a majority marketshare winner.

It is unfortunate that our current political and legal system has brought this justly favored company to the point that it has and in the process interfered with the sovereign's task of making rational economic calculations as to the company that serves us better with the most desirable products and services.

While unnecessary it is better for the public's interest that the current lawsuit be brought to a rapid settlement as has been proposed rather than follow the ludicrous and unjust actions sought by the competing and powerful politicoeconomic interests that seek to so call protect us from ourselves or those that serve us by our own encouragement.

Respectfully,

Samuel Medrano, MD

Bibliography:

Mises, Ludwig von----Human Action 1949

Rothbard, Murray N.--Man, Economy and the State

For more on economics in general the Ludwig von Mises Institution is literally the best place on earth to begin and maintain a serious study on the subject.

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